

LLOYD GEORGE SPEECH MEANS O. K. TO POLICY OF PRESIDENT

With Germany staking her all on the western offensive, the allies and America have answered that they, too, will stake all and do it now.

That was the view Washington took today of Lloyd George's address, following President Wilson's "force" address and his pledge to "double quick" the sending of American forces abroad.

The crisis came home with full force today from England's act in raising the military service age to fifty years, and her decision to conscript Irishmen.

Stakes His Career. President Wilson cleared the way by sidetracking the idea of a political offensive against Austria, and by declaring that hereafter unqualified force will be America's role. Lloyd George, America's pointed out, staked his political career and ran the risk of a serious rebellion in Ireland in forcing the conscription issue.

Only a really grave need for men would force these steps. The shelving of General Gough, leader of the beaten Fifth British army, plus appointment of General Foch as chief strategist, evidently superseding the Versailles council plan, revealed untold features of the western battle.

England and France have been through the fire and close to a fatal configuration, according to military men.

Something went wrong with the fifth army, they say. And Lloyd George himself pointed out that only part of the story of that western hell has been told to date. Enough now is revealed, however, to convince military authorities here that England and France have drawn heavily on reserves to halt the German forces before Amiens. They are still confident of the final outcome, but they agree with Lloyd George that the battle may run on for months.

America will play a vast part in the coming days. Her troop shipment schedule is geared high, and she will have a surprising representation on the west line in the next three or four months. This addition, with England's new men, is counted on to definitely check German advances.

Verdun Tactics. The German is now trying to straighten out the ends of the line in a fashion similar to his tactics at Verdun. But, allied strategy is such apparently that while he will quite certainly make gains from time to time, he will be kept from capturing the vitally important strategic center, Amiens.

The situation in England and Ireland.

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Herr Erzberger Has "Kolossal" Plan for Universal Peace

COPENHAGEN, April 10.—The Berlin Tagliche Rundschau says that Matthias Erzberger, the Centrist leader, is planning a great propaganda in favor of international and economic peace.

His scheme includes agreements for the placing of British and American capital in German industries, so that at least half the money invested in German industries would be Anglo-American, while Germany would, to a great extent, be invested in England.

He advocates also that the three countries should have identical labor legislation.

land, aside from the question of furnishing Americans more rapidly, of the embarrassing problems for American statesmen. The alien draft treaty, while not now mentioning Ireland, is so framed that when conscription is enforced in Ireland, it can be used against Irishmen here.

The general belief here is that conscription in Ireland will stick, and that in time the agitation against it will subside. America will probably take no steps to draft Irishmen until this quieter stage is reached.

MOST LONDON PAPERS LAUD PREMIER'S PLAN FOR DRAFTING IRISH

LONDON, April 10.—The London newspapers for the most part praise Premier Lloyd George's courage in demanding Irish conscription. They hold it purely a matter of justice, requiring Ireland—though belated—to pay a portion of the cost of world freedom.

Though it is realized that the enforcement of conscription in Ireland is fraught with possibilities of a serious nature, there seems to be a desire for a show-down. There is confidence that possible organized resistance in Ireland would be defeated, because it is believed that such resistance would not represent all Ireland's opinion, but merely the fragment which is responsive to the obstructionist politicians.

After all, it is held by the London press that it is the government's duty to enforce all measures for the country's safety upon all subjects.

The Express said today: "We are warned that conscription will unify the Nationalists and Sinn Féiners in rebellion against the British. We do not believe this. If Ireland does not respond to conscription, strong orders from the government must govern the situation."

Though curious as to the course of events on the western front since the German attack, especially in view of Lloyd George's statement that the British army command had advance knowledge of the German plans, the morning newspapers mostly expressed willingness to await further information before stating their opinion.

**MEADE MEN PLAN
HIKE TO CAPITAL
FULLY EQUIPPED**

CAMP MEADE, Md., April 10.—A hike of thirty miles to Washington by a large part of the 30,000 men in camp here is now being planned.

The units to go will include those who did not go as an entirety to Baltimore last week. The 312th Machine Gun Battalion, of the District of Columbia, and the 210th Field Artillery, the Maryland county men, will have their complete equipment and all vehicles in the line.

The artillerymen are, expecting their 75's and are looking forward with pleasure to a chance to show them to the people of Washington. The machine gunners and other special units will have a display that will be interesting.

AEROS ESCORT MISS WILSON.
WACO, Tex., April 10.—The train carrying Miss Margaret Wilson, daughter of the President, from this city to Austin was escorted by a convoy of airplanes flying in battle formation. Miss Wilson is making a tour of army camps in Southern States.

JUST BACK FROM GERMANY

CLOTHES SO SCARCE THAT POOR ARE
BARELY ABLE TO KEEP THEM-
SELVES WARM.

This is the fourth of a series of eyewitness articles about Germany. They are written by Miss Blanche Slocum, the last person to cross the border from the Kaiser's domain.

By BLANCHE SLOCUM.

While I saw posters in Germany—"Help the Fatherland by Collecting Thistles"—with pictures of children so employed, I never chanced to see the cloth German ingenuity has contrived to make from thistles, nor did I see the cloth it has contrived to make from paper, though I remember hearing an official say to a woman who had demanded cloth for curtains: "No, you must use paper cloth. It's excellent." And yet I was sufficiently aware of a clothes crisis even in 1914.

Early in the war almost all cloth that could be used for uniforms was commandeered and we learned that we could purchase clothing only by permit (Beauchain) and must appeal to the police for that. This was fairly take no steps to draft Irishmen until this quieter stage is reached.

Difficulty in Buying Clothes.
Before my departure from Munich in January, 1918, I wanted to buy a skirt, so went to the police station, where an official and I had a talk that ran like this:

"Want a skirt, do you?" How many have you now?
"None decent to wear but what I've got on."
"You'd better tell the truth, because the police will come and see."
"All right, the whole truth is I haven't a skirt to my name, except just this."

"What did you do with the old ones?"
"Gave them away."
"He had his doubts as to that, and I had my troubles before the affair was settled, but I finally got my 'schlein'."

Another time I wanted linen, as the laundress had either stolen or lost mine.
"Bring your worn-out things," said the official, "so that I can be sure you need new ones."
"But they're missing," I explained; "the laundress says she can't find them."
He replied: "Then the laundress must come and swear."

Only One Pair Stockings.
In Germany today they allow you to buy only one pair of stockings at a time, and only one garment of underwear at a time, and only one dress or suit at a time, and you must show that you are in desperate need by exhibiting your rags and tatters, or in some way proving your requirements. It is no good to sb. All your purchases have been listed by the police.

Queer dialogues I used to overhear at the police station. I often wondered how the officers kept their temper, women cried and wrangled and fought so, and the demand for a "schlein" was so often calculated to enrage the official mind. A housemaid said: "My lady wants a new nightgown." "How many has she got now, more than two?" "I can't tell." "Go home and count them and have her come and tend to it herself." A hausfrau said: "I want a fancy vest or my son's suit. I don't need one in wartime. Go on home."

This was not because of any mere love for red tape on the officials' part. Textiles were scarce and growing scarcer. In Munich I inquired the price of ordinary cotton aprons at the largest department store and heard, "We haven't got an ordinary cotton apron in the house—no, nor a cotton sheet." It was just as well, I suppose, for prices have risen to a point unprecedented. One can pay \$100 for a dreadful looking suit.

Stockings are excessively dear and to be had only by card. Gloves that used to cost 50 cents a pair in Germany now cost \$4. And while the government strives in every way to keep down the price of food, it seems to make no effort at all to keep down the price of things to wear. It likes high prices, as they make people go extremely slow about buying.

The Germans were never well dressed according to our standards, but today they are out and out sordid. Audiences at the opera look poverty-stricken. Darning and patching have gone lengths never before dreamed of, and among the poor you frequently see garments patched with several different kinds of cloth. All sorts of clothing charities thrive at first, but now it is hard for them to get things to give away.

Few Wear Mourning.
Early in the war mourning black was everywhere. It is still allowed, but a great many families go without, partly from economy, partly because it was said that the Kaiser disapproved, and partly because of the red tape to be gone through with before one can secure a "schlein." Not to mention more elaborate formalities, applicants must submit the death certificate.

It is not only the scarcity of cloth that torments warring Germany, it is also the quality of what cloth exists. Almost every one wears shoddy; all

most every one complains in winter of not being anything like warm enough. How I pitied the children who had no stockings inside their wooden shoes. Quite frequently those were the children of upper class Germans.

Wooden shoes abound in Germany and the streets are all uproariously scuffed with the wooden sandals of German children, while people who had never tried on a wooden shoe before the war, let alone wearing one, are thoroughly accustomed to the experience now. It apparently involves much less of a hardship than might be supposed. The wooden shoe of wartime is not the boatlike affair one has seen in pictures, but simply a leather or mock leather shoe with a wooden sole or a wooden sandal without uppers. Sometimes the maker gives the sole a degree of pliability by inserting a hinge.

High Prices For Shoes.
To obtain all leather shoes, if any exist, even all imitation leather shoes—you must be prepared to pay a fairly high price and lead up to the transaction by showing a worn-out pair. This helps to explain why men are constantly coming to your door and offering good money for castoff shoes; they can sell them to people who will use them as exhibit A of dire and desperate need and thus secure a "schlein" to buy new ones.

On purchasing the new pair one goes direct to the cobbler to have him nail scraps of real leather (leavings from the factories that make boots for the army) all over the soles. Otherwise, sure as fate, the thing will happen that happened to me, and it will happen speedily. I neglected this precaution, and in less than no time found a hole as big as a silver dollar.

As rubber has vanished, no one in Germany can buy rubber overshoes. Rubber elastic garters are replaced by spirals of wire, rubber raincoats by imitation rubber raincoats—brownish, ugly, and semi-transparent.

Silk you can buy without a "schlein," but the selection is small and the quality wretched. I was told that furs dropped 50 per cent in price when Russia declared an armistice and resumed trading with Germany. But Germans have little need of finery in wartime. All the dress functions indoors and out, ceased when the Imperial German government began its campaign to conquer the world.

Women Still Follow Style.
However, the war has not wholly abolished the feminine love of fashion, and while in answer to my demand for French fashion books a shopkeeper said: "Our German fashions are good enough for anybody," such periodicals as Le Bon Ton and La Chic still come into Germany through Switzerland and are pounced upon with all the old delighted eagerness.

Except that a great many German women now wear trousers while doing men's work—the girl messengers, for example, and the motorwomen and female coal heavers—and except that wooden shoes are extensively worn, no downright startling changes in costume have taken place. But, oh, the shabbiness, the seediness, with everywhere signs of poverty and suffering.

German Spirit Broken.
Poor wretches! They look "down and out," and by their clothes continually remind themselves and one another of war and its calamities. Next to the food shortage, the clothes shortage, with its attendant exasperations and discomforts, is perhaps the most potent of the influences that are undermining morale among the German people. For there is a sense in which clothes make the man. If wretched and hideous and shockingly dear, they break his spirit. And the spirit behind the lines in Germany is not only breaking, it has broken. Among the masses, it may now be designated without much exaggeration as the spirit that we call "peace at any price."

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(Miss Slocum's next article, "Hungary in Warring Germany," will appear tomorrow.)

**COLUMBIA FEATURES
SONGS BY NORA BAYES**
Nora Bayes is now singing excellently for Columbia records. Her first two songs on records, out today, are "Some Day They're Coming Home Again" and "I May Stay Away a Little Longer," and in both she shows that quality which has made her that prima donna of the vaudeville stage. As Johnson's May record for Columbia is "Wedding Bells, Will You Ever Ring for Me?" "Just a Little Cottage" with some close harmony, is presented by the Sterling Trio on the other side of Johnson's tragicomic song.

Oscar Seagle and the Columbia Stellar Quartet, Irving Berlin's latest hit, "My Sweetie," by Samuel Ash, "I Hate to Love You," by Robert Lewis, are other features of the May, Columbia records.

Prince's Band's latest dance double for the Columbia is a medley fox-trot, "Just a Baby's Prayer at Twilight," and "I'll Take You Back to Italy." On the other side, Prince's Band presents "Honey Rag," "Infatuation," "Never Forget to Write Home," "Some Night," and "Just a Simple Country Maiden."

D. C. MEN COMMISSIONED.
Preston Davis, of the fuel and force division of the War Department, has been appointed a lieutenant colonel in the quartermaster corps, national army. Among other Washington men receiving commissions are Armand J. Mechin, captain, quartermaster corps, national army; James C. Ray, captain, engineer reserve corps; and William J. Kales, captain, aviation section, signal reserve corps.

CASCO - 2 1/4 in. CLYDE - 2 1/4 in.
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BIT OF SHELL BOTHERS INSTRUCTOR AT MEADE
CAMP MEADE, Md., April 10.—An x-ray picture taken of a patient at the base hospital showed a piece of German shrapnel, and now the surgeons here will probe for it.

This sounds like the work of some monster gun, but the patient happens to be Capt. C. Eric Hammerde, one of the British instructors here, and the bit of the Kaiser's steel has been in his arm since the first battle of Ypres, May 1, 1918.

The strenuous work of instructing men in the handling of rifles, sniper-scopes and telescope rifles has dislodged the fragment, and it is now causing the instructor pain. The bit of steel has worked its way from below his elbow up to the upper part of his arm, near the shoulder.

ASSAULTED GIRL, IS CHARGE.
NEW LONDON, Conn., April 10.—Joseph A. Schaf, sixty-three, is held here on \$1,000 bond on a charge of assault upon an eight-year-old girl.

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Bert S. Elliott, editor of the Park View News, has qualified as a satirist of the first rank, in the opinion of members of the Park View Citizens' Association. Last night the members witnessed "Efficiency," a satirical production, written and staged by Mr. Elliott, at the meeting in the Park View School.

The sketch related to some of the methods pursued by local citizens' associations. The leading parts were all taken by officers and members of the executive committee of the Park View organization.

H. M. Conolly, agricultural agent for the District in connection with war garden work, urged the intensive cultivation of all available ground in order to relieve the world food shortage.

INVESTIGATORS TO BE SENT.
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We know they're what you want; we know they're the greatest value for your money: real economy in clothes. You cannot go wrong when you buy these clothes.

**How much do your
clothes cost?**

**THE clothes are the answer
to that question, not the
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a suit of all-wool cloth, finely
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long wear and in the end costs
less than one that doesn't last long
or look right.**

Our clothes cost enough to be very economical. Be sure of our label, a small thing to look for, a big thing to find.

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Haberdasher**
1109-1111 Pa. Ave.

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